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URBAN DISTRICT OF ADLINGTON

September, 1951.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1950.

Nothing has yet occurred reference the health of the area to warrant much comment.

There has been no untoward mortality though the Death Rate has risen slightly from 10.9 to 12.8 with an actual increase of 7 deaths.

The Birth Rate has fallen by 20 births making a fall of 20 (per 1000 population) to 16.3. The Infant Mortality Rate has risen from 13 (per 1000 births) last year to 67 this year, but this only again manifests the effect of small numbers on the fluctuation of Rates as the number of infant deaths has increased only by 3. All the 4 infant deaths occurred during the first four weeks of life - which fact could be construed as a tribute to the work of Infant Welfare Centres.

I note a slight increase in the number of persons suffering from overcrowding, but although no houses were completed by the Local Authority during the year under review, the building now under erection will doubtless alleviate much of this in due course.

There is nothing much to remark of infectious disease, except to note a decline in the number of Measles cases notified, and an increase in those of Whooping Cough.

In my previous report(for 1949) I paid tribute to the great amount of work undertaken by your Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor, and I note again that this side of his duties has taken up much of his time, although - as one would hope, if his work is to "show fruit" - there is a slight diminution in his figures. I would particularly note the improvement in the conditions of milk production (although some of this work has now been taken out of his hands) and it is with pleasure you will note the increase in licences issued for the production of higher standard milk.

Once again, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen, I thank you for your help and consideration, and again I express my grateful thanks to your Clerk and Mr. Hilton for their great assistance.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. C. GUBBINS.

Medical Officer of Health.

The Chairman and Members,
Adlington Urban District Council.

URBAN DISTRICT OF ADLINGTON

VITAL STATISTICS 1950

Area	... 1062 acres
Population (Registrar-General's Estimate Mid 1950)	... 4020
Number of inhabited houses (Rate-book) ...	... 1230
Rateable Value	... £17,774.
Product of 1d. Rate	... £70.

Births

	Male	Female	Total	
Live Births - legitimate ...	39	19	58	Birth Rate per 1000 population (adjusted)=16.3
illegitimate...	2	-	2	
Total ...	41	19	60	
Still Births	4	-	4	Rate per 1000 Live & Still Births = 63.

Deaths

Male	Female	Total	
22	28	50	Death Rate per 1000 population (adjusted) = 12.8

Death from Puerperal Causes	Nil
Maternal mortality	Nil
Death of infants under one year ... Male - 1) Female - 3)	Total.. 4
All infants per 1000 live births (i.e. Infant Mortality Rate)	67
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births ...	69
Illegitimate do. illegitimate do. ...	nil
Death from Cancer (all ages)	8
Death from Measles	nil
Death from Whooping Cough	nil
Death from Diarrhoea(under 2 years)	nil

Causes of Death

	Male	Female
Tuberculosis ...	1	-
Cancer ...	5	3
"Stroke" ...	3	2
Heart Disease ...	8	12
Other Respiratory Diseases ...	1	1
Bronchitis and Pneumonia ...	3	4
Kidney Diseases ...	-	1
Suicide ...	-	2
All other cases ...	2	5
	22	28

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

Staff

Medical Officer of Health :- R.C.Gubbins, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Sanitary Inspector(Part-time) :- Robert Hilton, R.S.I.(Surveyor).

Laboratory Facilities.

Pathological Department, Wigan Royal Victoria Infirmary.
Public Health Laboratory, Manchester University.

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Ambulance Facilities

Provided by Lancashire County Council, Ambulance Service (Chorley Depot) - Telephone: Chorley 2744.

Nursing in the Home

There is one "District Nurse" practising in the area. She is Nurse Holden, 6 Rivington Avenue, Adlington.

Treatment Clinics.

All administered by the Lancashire County Council and situate in Chorley at either 20 St. Thomas's Road, or 2-4 St. Thomas's Square.

Maternity and Child Welfare Centres. See next section.

School Clinics.

The "Minor Ailment Clinic" is held at 20, St. Thomas's Road, Chorley, each Thursday at 10.a.m.

Ancillary School Clinics (Orthopaedic, Dental and Eye etc.) are held at Chorley, and attended by Practitioners of Specialist status. Attendance is by appointment via School Medical Staff.

Tuberculosis Clinic.

The County Dispensary, 34 St. Thomas's Road, Chorley. The County Tuberculosis Officer (Dr. Villiers) attends each Tuesday at 10.a.m. This Clinic is also used as a consultant clinic for chest conditions other than tuberculosis,

Venereal Disease Clinics.

Held at Chorley and District Hospital, Wigan Infirmary and Bolton Infirmary.

Hospital Facilities.

For non-infectious cases - Chorley & District Hospital, Wigan Victoria Infirmary and Bolton Royal Infirmary.

For infectious cases - Isolation Hospital, Heath Charnock.

Tuberculosis - Sanatorium (50 beds) at Isolation Hospital, Heath Charnock.

Smallpox - Smallpox Hospital at Finnington.

All administered by Manchester Regional Hospital Board.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

These Services are administered by the Lancashire County Council.

Domiciliary Facilities.

There is one salaried Midwife, employed by the Lancashire County Council practising in the area :- Miss L. J. Woodall, 27 The Avenue, Fair View, Adlington. Telephone No.325.

Ante-Natal Clinics.

The large majority of the expectant mothers in the area attend the ante-natal clinic at 2/4 St.Thomas's Square, Chorley, and avail themselves of the excellent facilities provided by the Lancashire County Council Divisional Health Service. These Clinics are held on Mondays(at 2.0.p.m.) Thursdays (at 10.a.m.) and Fridays (at 11.a.m.) and are attended by Mr. D. C. Wiseman, F.R.C.S., M.R.C.O.G., who also attends in a consultant capacity at the Chorley and District Hospital and the Preston Royal Infirmary.

Maternity Beds.

The available accommodation at Chorley is as follows:-

Chorley and District Hospital	... 120 beds
Eaves Lane P.A. Institution	... 12 beds.

Infant Welfare Centres.

An Infant Welfare Clinic is held weekly (Wednesdays 2-4 p.m.) at the Christ Church Schoolroom, Adlington, and is attended by a Medical Officer of the Lancashire County Council as well as the County Health Visitor. Since July 1948 this Medical Officer has been myself.

Health Visitor.

The County's Health Visitor for the area is Mrs. Ashley, 123 Bolton Road, Chorley.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

The water supply of the area is provided (1) from the Blackrod Reservoir (by the arrangement with the Blackrod U.D.C.) and (2) from a tapping of the conduits taking the Manchester supply from Thirlmere (by arrangement with the Manchester Corporation). The water from both sources is adequate in quantity and satisfactory in quality. Every house in the area has a "main supply". The average daily consumption is nearly 82,000 gallons, which gives a consumption per head of 20.09 gallons daily. The supplies are interchangeable and complementary.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Only some 34 outlying properties are not connected to the sewerage system. These have septic tanks. The sewerage disposal is by precipitation and filtration over 3 coke filters, at the Sewerage Disposal Works at Harrison's Farm. The effluent is discharged into the River Douglas. The Sewage Works was modernised in 1931. Extensions of sewers were undertaken in 1950 to new properties.

Rivers and Streams.

These are inspected at intervals by the Inspectors of the Lancashire Rivers Board. Pollution continues, particularly by the local Dyeing Company. Representations have been made by this Council to the Rivers Board.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

1286 moveable ashbins are emptied weekly by the Local Authority's vehicle. The refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping at three sites.

Cleansing of drains and closets.

Closet accommodation :-

Privy middens :- No. of Middens	... 10
No. of Closets attached thereto	... 12
No. of Pail closets ...	... 1
No. of freshwater closets	...1556
No. of waste water closets	... 7

The onus for the satisfactory maintenance of drains and closets is upon the property owners and such work is not undertaken by the Local Authority.

Lavatories and Urinals

There are public lavatories at the upper and lower recreation grounds and a public urinal near the Council Offices. These conveniences are cleaned daily by the Local Authority. I mentioned in my last report that the Urinal opposite the Council Offices needed modernising. At the time of writing this Report, plans have been approved for this scheme.

Shops and Offices.

There are from 90-100 registered shops in the area. No action was taken under the Shop Acts, or Public Health Act, 1936, during the year. The County Council are responsible for the administration of the Shop Acts, your Sanitary Inspector acting as their agent. The Sanitary Inspector made 186 visits to these premises during the year.

Camping Sites.

There are no camping sites in the area. One caravan is licensed for living purposes.

Smoke Abatement.

No. of factory and Works chimneys in area	...	4
No. of observations taken during the year	...	94

No legal proceedings were undertaken for excessive smoke emissions during the year, but personal contact with firms and their boiler personnel was made by the Sanitary Inspector.

Disinfestation of Houses.

Two houses were found to be infested during 1950 and were duly disinfested by your staff.

Schools.

The water supply of the schools is from the mains. The drainage from the National (C. of E.) Schools is by trough closets. Doubtless this unsatisfactory method will be remedied when reorganisation can take place.

Other Matters.

There are in the area no Common Lodging Houses or "Houses let in lodgings" registered, no swimming baths or pools, no underground sleeping rooms, no premises where rag flock is manufactured, and no premises for the undertaking of offensive trades.

Summary of Sanitary Inspections.

No. of premises visited	...	692
No. of visits made to above	...	759
No. of nuisances discovered	...	269
No. of nuisances abated	...	249
No. of informal notices served	...	165
No. of Statutory Notices served	...	9

There were no legal proceedings for the abatement of nuisances.

HOUSING

No. of new Houses erected during the year :-

(1)	By Local Authority ...	-
(2)	By other Local Authorities ...	-
(3)	By other bodies or persons ...	6

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year.

(a)	No. of houses inspected for housing defects under the Public Health or Housing Acts ...	185
(b)	No. of inspections made for the purpose ...	292
	No. of houses included under sub-head (a) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations	12
	No. of houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	3
	No. of houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation ...	158

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal Notice.

No. of dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	111

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.

Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of Housing Act, 1936 :-

No. of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs ...	nil
No. of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal Notice	
(a) by owners	nil
(b) by Local Authority in default of Owners ...	nil.

Proceedings under Public Health Act:-

No. of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	9
No. of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after serving of formal notices:-	
(a) by Owners	7
(b) by Local Authority in default of Owners ...	nil

4. Housing Act, 1936 - Part 4 - Overcrowding.

No. of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	8
No. of families dwelling therein	14
No. of persons dwelling therein	62
No. of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	2
No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	nil
No. of persons concerned in such cases ...	nil

5. Housing Conditions.

Most of the houses in the area are of the "two up and two down" type, and lack baths or hot water supply. Like most of the sub-standard houses built some 80 years or more ago, they were well built and with reasonable maintenance are difficult to condemn as unfit for human habitation, though the lack of damp courses causes a prevailing defect of dampness.

6. Housing Schemes.

16 houses in course of erection on Fair View Estate. Plans approved by Ministry of Health for the erection of 5 bungalows, 16 - 2 bedroomed houses and 6 - 3 bedroomed houses on site off Park Road.

7. Overcrowding or Housing Shortage.

29 applications for houses were received, including 16 from families without separate homes. (Not all of these cases necessarily result in overcrowding, of course).

INFECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) Milk Supply.

The following number of milk traders were on the Register at 31st December 1950 :-

Retail purveyors at 31st December, 1950 ... 30.

Two licences were issued by the County Council for the production of milk in the area under the Milk(Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations 1949, for Tuberculin Tested Milk.

4 Supplementary Licences were granted under the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations 1949, for the sale of Pasteurised Milk, and 3 for the sale of Sterilised milk.

5 samples of milk were taken for analysis
5 were found to be satisfactory.

(b) Meat.

The meat supply to the area is distributed from the Chorley Public Abattoirs (at present under the Ministry of Health) where there is 100% inspection of carcasses.

All Pigs killed for own use are slaughtered in two licensed Slaughterhouses in the district, and all carcasses inspected. 33 pigs were killed and inspected during the year - 20% of these carcasses were affected with Tuberculosis and parts of 6 carcasses were condemned.

(c) Other Foods.

Places where other foods are prepared, or kept for sale are inspected frequently by your Sanitary Inspector.

There are 11 small bakehouses and 8 fried fish shops in the district - all kept in a satisfactory condition.

103 inspections of places where food is prepared were made during the year by your Sanitary Inspector.

During the year, the Council adopted the Model Bye-laws for the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food.

Ice-Cream.

As a contribution to the heightened campaign for better and cleaner Ice-cream, 54 visits to premises selling or manufacturing Ice-cream were made by the Sanitary Inspector.

7 registrations were made for the sale of Ice-cream.

PREVENTION OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

During the year the following cases were notified.

		1950	1949
Measles	...	7	21
Scarlet Fever	...	7	4
Whooping Cough	...	21	4
Pneumonia	...	8	6

Diphtheria

It is gratifying to note that this has been the 6th successive year without a Diphtheria case notified.

Tuberculosis.

Two new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were added to the Register during the year.

There was one death from pulmonary tuberculosis during the 12 months.